

Amendment to the Drawings

The attached Replacement Sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 1. In FIG. 1, cross-sectional detail of the coating, as discussed in the specification on page 7, lines 19-29, has been added. Accordingly, the illustrated detail is supported by the specification as originally filed and does not constitute new matter.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

By this amendment, Figure 1 and claim 1 have been amended. Claims 3, 4 and 10 were previously canceled. Claims 1, 2 and 5-9 remain in the application. Support for the amendments to Figure 1 and claim 1 can be found in the specification and drawings, as originally filed. No new matter has been added. This application has been carefully considered in connection with the Examiner's Action. Reconsideration, and allowance of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Drawings

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection for at least the following reason. By this amendment, FIG. 1 has been amended to illustrate a cross-sectional representation of the coating as discussed in the specification on page 7, lines 19-29. No new matter has been added, since the specification as originally filed includes a written description of the coating which is composed of two layers, i.e. an intermediate layer and a following (or outer) layer. Accordingly, the objection of the drawings has now been overcome. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 2 and 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reason. Claim 1 has been amended to remove any indefiniteness and to more clearly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in the specification on at least page 3, lines 19-22; page 5, lines 5-8; and page 7, lines 23-26, and thus no new matter has been introduced. Claims 2 and 5-9, which

depend from claim 1, are now no longer indefinite. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 1, 2 and 5-9 has now been overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Except as indicated herein, the claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or a continuation application.

It is clear from all of the foregoing that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 2 and 5-9 depend from and further limit allowable independent claim 1 and are allowable as well.

The amendments herein are fully supported by the original specification and drawings; therefore, no new matter is introduced. Issuance of an early formal notice of allowance of claims 1, 2 and 5-9 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

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